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In re Application of :
Nikolchev, et al. :
Application No. 10/600,298 :
Filed: June 20, 2003 :
Attorney Docket No. **016355-022580US** :

ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), filed October 15, 2007, to accept an unintentionally delayed claim under 35 U.S.C §120 for the benefit of priority to the prior-filed non-provisional application set forth in the amendment filed concurrently with the instant petition.

The petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) is **GRANTED**.

A petition for acceptance of a claim for late priority under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) is only applicable to those applications filed on, or after, November 29, 2000. Further, the petition is appropriate only after the expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii). In addition, the petition under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) must be accompanied by:

1. the reference required by 35 U.S.C § 120 and 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(2)(i) of the prior-filed application, unless previously submitted;
2. the surcharge set forth in § 1.17(t), and
3. a statement that the entire delay between the date the claim was due under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii) and the date the claim was filed was unintentional. The Commissioner may require additional information where there is a question whether the delay was unintentional.

The instant pending application was filed on June 20, 2003, and was pending at the time of the filing of the instant petition. A reference to the prior-filed nonprovisional application has been included in an amendment to the first page of the specification, as required by 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(iii).

The instant nonprovisional application was filed after November 29, 2000, and the claim herein for the benefit of priority to the prior-filed application is submitted after the expiration of the period specified in 37 CFR 1.78(a)(2)(ii). Also, the reference to the prior filed application was submitted during the

pendency of the instant nonprovisional application for which the claim for benefit of priority is sought. See 35 U.S.C. § 120. Accordingly, having found that the instant petition for acceptance of an unintentionally delayed claim for benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120 to the prior-filed non-provisional application satisfies the conditions of 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3), the petition is granted.

The granting of the petition to accept the delayed benefit claim to the prior-filed application under 37 CFR 1.78(a)(3) should not be construed as meaning the instant application is entitled to the benefit of the prior-filed application. In order for the instant application to be entitled to the benefit of the prior-filed application, all other requirements under 35 U.S.C. § 120 and 37 CFR 1.78(a)(1) and (a)(2) must be met. Similarly, the fact that the corrected Filing Receipt accompanying this decision on petition includes the prior-filed application should not be construed as meaning that applicant is entitled to the claim for benefit of priority to the prior-filed applications noted thereon. Accordingly, the examiner will, in due course, consider this benefit claim and determine whether the instant application is entitled to the benefit of the earlier filing date.

A corrected Filing Receipt, which includes the priority claim to the prior-filed application, accompanied this decision on petition.

Any inquiries concerning this decision may be directed to Kenya A. McLaughlin, Petitions Attorney, at (571) 272-3222.

This matter is being referred to Technology Center 3700, Art Unit 3772 for appropriate action on the amendment filed October 15, 2007, including consideration by the examiner of applicant's entitlement to claim benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 to the prior-filed non-provisional application.



Anthony Knight
Supervisor
Office of Petitions

Enclosure: Corrected Filing Receipt



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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING or 371(c) DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE RECD	ATTY.DOCKET.NO	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
10/600,298	06/20/2003	3772	1672	016355-002580US	26	16

CONFIRMATION NO. 6671

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CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT



OC000000028555206

Date Mailed: 02/28/2008

Receipt is acknowledged of this non-provisional patent application. The application will be taken up for examination in due course. Applicant will be notified as to the results of the examination. Any correspondence concerning the application must include the following identification information: the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Filing Receipt Corrections. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections

Applicant(s)

Julian N. Nikolchev, Portola Valley, CA;
Dai T. Ton, San Jose, CA;

Assignment For Published Patent Application

CONCEPTUS, INC., San Carlos, CA

Power of Attorney: None

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

This application is a CIP of 09/093,835 06/08/1998 PAT 6,705,323
which claims benefit of 60/059,861 09/24/1997
and is a CIP of 08/475,252 06/07/1995 ABN
and is a CIP of 08/474,779 06/07/1995 PAT 6,176,240

Foreign Applications

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted: 08/26/2003

The country code and number of your priority application, to be used for filing abroad under the Paris Convention, is **US 10/600,298**

Projected Publication Date: Not Applicable

Non-Publication Request: No

Early Publication Request: No

**** SMALL ENTITY ****

Title

Contraceptive transcervical fallopian tube occlusion devices and methods

Preliminary Class

128

PROTECTING YOUR INVENTION OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES

Since the rights granted by a U.S. patent extend only throughout the territory of the United States and have no effect in a foreign country, an inventor who wishes patent protection in another country must apply for a patent in a specific country or in regional patent offices. Applicants may wish to consider the filing of an international application under the Patent Cooperation Treaty (PCT). An international (PCT) application generally has the same effect as a regular national patent application in each PCT-member country. The PCT process **simplifies** the filing of patent applications on the same invention in member countries, but **does not result** in a grant of "an international patent" and does not eliminate the need of applicants to file additional documents and fees in countries where patent protection is desired.

Almost every country has its own patent law, and a person desiring a patent in a particular country must make an application for patent in that country in accordance with its particular laws. Since the laws of many countries differ in various respects from the patent law of the United States, applicants are advised to seek guidance from specific foreign countries to ensure that patent rights are not lost prematurely.

Applicants also are advised that in the case of inventions made in the United States, the Director of the USPTO must issue a license before applicants can apply for a patent in a foreign country. The filing of a U.S. patent application serves as a request for a foreign filing license. The application's filing receipt contains further information and guidance as to the status of applicant's license for foreign filing.

Applicants may wish to consult the USPTO booklet, "General Information Concerning Patents" (specifically, the section entitled "Treaties and Foreign Patents") for more information on timeframes and deadlines for filing foreign patent applications. The guide is available either by contacting the USPTO Contact Center at 800-786-9199, or it can be viewed on the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/doc/general/index.html>.

For information on preventing theft of your intellectual property (patents, trademarks and copyrights), you may wish to consult the U.S. Government website, <http://www.stopfakes.gov>. Part of a Department of Commerce initiative, this website includes self-help "toolkits" giving innovators guidance on how to protect intellectual property in specific countries such as China, Korea and Mexico. For questions regarding patent enforcement issues, applicants may call the U.S. Government hotline at 1-866-999-HALT (1-866-999-4158).

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Title 35, United States Code, Section 184
Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 5.11 & 5.15**

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NOT GRANTED

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